(a) the funds allocated as grant-in-aid by the University Grants Commission to the universities in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether all the Universities have fully utilised this amount;

(c) if not, whether any university has refunded the un-utilised money; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Medical Facility

259. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are aware that there are about 20 thousand Central Government employees in Chandigarh but there is no provision for medical facility for them in that city;

(b) the action proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard;

(c) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Union Government to provide medical allowance to such employees till any arrangement is made for them;

(d) whether the Government have received any memorandum from the retired Central Government employees residing in Chandigarh for provision of medical facilities; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action being taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b) There is a proposal to include the extension of CGHS facilities to the Central Government employees/pensioners at Chandigarh in the Ninth Five Year Plan.

(c) There is no such proposal under consideration at present.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The matter of providing medical facilities to Central Government pensioners was taken up with the Fifth Central Pay Commission. Their recommendations are under examination of the Government.

Erosion by Ganga

260. SHRI THOMAS HANSDA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the erosion on the banks of Ganga in Rajmahal and Udhawa blocks under Sahebganj district, is of an alarming proportions;

(b) if so, whether the Government have formulated or propose to formulate any scheme to check the above erosion; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (c) No scheme regarding the erosion by River Ganga in Rajmahal and Udhawa Blocks has been received by the Centre.

Alleged Irregularities by Central Haj Committee

261. SHRI ILIYAS AZMI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the amount taken by Central Haj Committee from each Haji for air fare and house rent in Mecca and Madina during last year;

(b) the number of aircrafts chartered and the number of buildings hired in Mecca and Madina by the Central Haj Committee during last years indicating the amount paid to Saudi house owners;

(c) whether the Government have received complaints regarding the irregularities committed by the Central Haj Committee in respect of their journey to Mecca and Madina and their boarding and lodging; and

(d) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government against the persons held responsible and the remedial measures taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) Last year, Central Haj Committee received Rs. 12,000 from each Haji for airfare. The amount received for rent of accommodation in Mecca was Saudi Riyals 1235 or 904 or 900, depending upon the location of the accommodation. For accommodation in Madina, Saudi Riyals 200 were received from each pilgrim.

(b) Central Haj Committee chartered four aircrafts for Haj' 96. As regards accommodation, in Mecca a total of 452 buildings were hired in 1995 and 648 in 1996 and amount paid was Saudi Riyals 33,063,536.00 and Saudi Riyals 48,780,255.00 respectively. In Madina, the accommodation were hired through Al Rowadah Group for 25983 Madina RAS pilgrims in 1995 & 44634 Madina RAS pilgrims in 1996 in as many buildings as required at a cost of Saudi Riyals 5,589,070.00 and Saudi Riyals 8,926,800.00 respectively.

(c) Government are not aware of such complaints.

(d) Does not arise.